

The Theology Behind Christmas - Part I

Reference: **Philippians 2:5-11**

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verse five, *“Let this mind (attitude) be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...”*

verse six, *“who (Christ Jesus), being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery **to be equal with God...**”*

Question: What form does God exist in?

John 4:24 states that God is a _____

Incarnation means “_____”

A fourth century priest from Alexandria Egypt (250-336 AD) named Arius taught a doctrine his critics called Arianism.

Definition: Arianism is a nontrinitarian teaching that asserts Jesus is the Son of God but He was a _____ from God the Father. Jesus is therefore distinct from the Father and subordinate to the Father.

Jesus Christ was one person that, after His conception and subsequent birth at Bethlehem, then had two distinct natures: one nature was _____ and a second nature was _____

Consider two passages that describe the two different natures of Jesus.

Reference: **John 10:27-30** (see screen)

verse thirty, Jesus said, *“I and My Father are one.”*

verses 31 through **33** (see screen)

verse six, *“who (Christ Jesus), being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be **equal with God.**”*

The Greek term translated as “equal” is “*isos*” and means an _____

But notice another passage that seems to state something else.

Reference: **John 14:28**, Jesus said, *“...for My Father is greater than I.”*

The ancient **Athanasian Creed** affirms that Jesus Christ is “equal to the Father as touching His _____ and inferior to the Father as touching His _____.”

Reference: **II Corinthians 11:1-4** (see screen)

References: **John 1:14, 1:18, 3:16, 3:18, 1 John 4:9** (see screen)

The word translated as “*only begotten*” is “*monogenes*” can mean “one of a kind or _____”

In Islam the deification of anything or anyone other than the singular God Allah is the greatest of all great sins and is called “_____”